

## Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 /063 W  
----- 020745

R 141813Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0054

INFO DIA WASHDC

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 1981

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, HO

SUBJ: PRESS COMMENTARY ON INVESTIGATING COMMISSION' S RETURN

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 1940

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS THE HONDURAN INVESTIGATING COMMISSION MET WITH CHIEF OF STATE MELGAR THE EVENING OF MAY 12 AND TOLD HIM THAT THE COMMISSION MEMBERS WISHED TO MAKE THEIR REPORT PUBLIC BEFORE PRESENTING IT TO GOH AUTHORITIES. MELGAR REPORTEDLY AGREED AND PRESS ACCOUNTS INDICATE THAT THE COMMISSION WILL DELIVER ITS MESSAGE VIA A LIVE RADIO AND TELEVISION HOOKUP THE EVENING OF MAY 14. PRESS REPORTS ALSO INDICATE THAT THE COMMISSION CALLED UPON FORMER MINECON BENNATON FOR FURTHER TESTIMONY MAY 12, THE DAY OF THE COMMISSION'S RETURN.

2. ON MAY 13 THE COMMISSION ISSUED A PRESS BULLETIN SAYING THAT TELEX MESSAGES HAVE BEEN ARRIVING IN UNCLASSIFIED

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TEGUCIGALPA FROM WASHINGTON INDICATING THAT CERTAIN PERSONS WILL BE NAMED AS THOSE GUILTY OF ACCEPTING UB BRIBE. THE COMMISSION CONDEMNED THESE AS FALSE MESSAGES WHICH ARE INTENDED TO DISORIENT PUBLIC OPINION. ACCORDING

TO EL CRONISTA OF MAY 14 THE TELEX MESSAGES SAID THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD ACCUSE CHIEF OF STATE MELGAR, FORMER FONMIN CESAR BATRES AND ONE OTHER PERSON AS BEING GUILTY.

3. SEVERAL PAPERS HAVE REPORTED THAT THE FAMILY OF FORMER MINECON BENNATON HAS RECEIVED VISAS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

4. EL DIA OF MAY 13 CARRIED HEADLINES SAYING THAT BENNATON'S PUBLISHED DEFENSE IS WEAK. THERE HAS APPEARED NO EDITORIAL COMMENT OR SPECULATION CONCERNING THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS.

5. THE COMMISSION SECRETARY INFORMED EMBOFF BY TELEPHONE MORNING OF MAY 14 THAT COMMISSION NATION-WIDE BROADCAST HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR EVENING OF MAY 15.  
SANCHEZ

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BRIBERY, INVESTIGATIONS, PRESS RELEASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1975TEGUCI01981  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 JUL 2003 by maginmm>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971008  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, HO, (BATRES, CESAR), (BENNATON), (MELGAR CASTRO, JUAN ALBERTO)  
**To:** STATE INFO DIA  
USIA  
GUATEMALA  
MANAGUA  
SAN JOSE  
SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006